

REMARKS

[001] The Office Action cites the following art: JP 4-221474A to *Ogawa, et al* (hereinafter *Ogawa*); U.S. Patent Number 5,184,265 to *Foote, et al* (hereinafter *Foote*); and U.S. Patent Number 6,391,216 to *Nakatani* (hereinafter *Nakatani*).

[002] Claims 1-29 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 10, 11, 20, and 25 are independent claims. Claims 11, 13, 14, and 18 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as unpatentable over *Ogawa*. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of *Ogawa, Foote, and Nakatani*.

[003] Applicant amended Claims 11 and 17 and presents new Claim 30. In addition, Applicant cancels Claims 1-10, 15-16, and 18-24. No new matter has been added.

[004] Unless otherwise noted, references in this Office Action Response to the present invention refer to the published version of the application, referenced by the first inventor's name: U.S. Publication Number US 2003-0035237 A1 to *Lille* (hereinafter *Lille*).

[005] The Applicant submits the attached amendments and remarks and respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that the Claims be allowed.

REMARKS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS OF CLAIMS

[006] In the Office Action mailed May 2, 2006 the Examiner allowed Claims 25-29 and objected to Claims 15-17, and 19.

[007] Claims 25-29 are presented unchanged. Since Claim 25 already substantially incorporates the limitations of Claim 15, Claim 15 is canceled.

[008] Claim 11 incorporates the limitations previously found in former Claim 16.

[009] Claim 17 incorporates the limitations of Claim 16 and now depends from amended Claim 11.

[010] New Claim 30 incorporates the limitations previously found in Claim 19.

[011] Thus, the two amended claims and the one new claim incorporate the limitations from the objected to Claims 16, 17, and 19. No new matter was added as the precise wording of the otherwise allowable Claims 16-19 are now found in Claims 11, 17, 19, and 30, respectively.

[012] Note that application now has a total of 3 independent claims, Claims 11, 25, and 30. Additionally, application now has 5 dependent claims, Claims 17, 26-29. Applicant believes that the new claim and the amendments require no additional fees.

CONCLUSION

[013] In the prior Office Action, mailed May 2, 2006, the Examiner allowed Claims 25-29 and objected to Claims 15-17, and 19 only because they did not depend from allowable independent claims. While Applicant acknowledges that entry of amendments after a Final Office Action is not a matter of right (See MPEP §714.13(II)), amendments are permitted to place the case in condition for allowance. Applicant has amended Claims 11 and 17 and presented new Claim 30 to incorporate the limitations of the objected to claims and has canceled all other non-allowed claims.

[014] In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. In the event any questions or issues remain that can be resolved with a phone call, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner initiate a telephone conference with the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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